

What is claimed is:

1. A differential limiting control apparatus for
a vehicle having a clutch unit interposed between one
5 rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft for
variably changing a driving force transmission between
the one rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft,
comprising:

a feedback control clutch torque computing unit for
10 computing the clutch torque of the clutch unit based on
vehicle behaviors through a feedback control,

a feed forward unit for computing the clutch torque
based on said behaviors through a feed forward control,

a tire diameter difference computing unit for
15 computing a diameter difference of a tire, and

a clutch torque computing unit for computing said
final clutch torque by changing a ratio of said clutch
torque obtained through the feedback control and the feed
forward control according to the diameter difference of
20 the tire.

2. The differential limiting control apparatus as
set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

the feedback control clutch torque computing unit
25 has a target differential speed setting unit for setting

a target differential speed between the one rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft, an actual differential speed detecting unit for detecting an actual differential speed between the one rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft, and a clutch torque computing for computing an engagement force of the clutch unit by obtaining a deviation between the target differential speed and the actual differential speed with a switching function by using at least a polarity related to an integral term of the deviation and by applying a sliding mode control.

3. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

15 the clutch torque computing unit reduces the ratio of said clutch torque obtained through the feed forward control as the diameter difference of the tire increases.

4. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

20 the tire diameter difference computing unit calculates the diameter difference based on at least an actual differential speed between the one rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft when the vehicle is running substantially straight and when a slippage is so difficult

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to be detected between a road and wheels.

5. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

5 the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

6. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 2, wherein:

10 the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

7. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein:

15 the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

8. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 4, wherein:

20 the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

9. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 1, wherein:

25 the clutch unit limits a differential action of a

differential interposed between left and right wheel.

10. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 2, wherein:

5 the clutch unit limits a differential action of a differential interposed between left and right wheel.

11. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 3, wherein:

10 the clutch unit limits a differential action of a differential interposed between left and right wheel.

12. The differential limiting control apparatus as set forth in Claim 4, wherein:

15 the clutch unit limits a differential action of a differential interposed between left and right wheel.

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13. A differential limiting control method for a vehicle having a clutch unit interposed between one rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft for variably changing a transmitting route of a driving force between the one rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft, comprising the steps of:

computing the clutch torque of the clutch unit based on behaviors of a vehicle through a feedback control,

computing said clutch torque based on said behaviors
through a feed forward control,

computing a diameter difference of tires, and

computing a final clutch torque by changing said
5 ratio of the clutch torque obtained through the feedback
control and said clutch torque obtained through the feed
forward control according to the diameter difference of
the tire.

10 14. The differential limiting control method as set
forth in Claim 13, wherein:

the feedback control clutch torque computing step
has a target differential speed setting step for setting
a target differential speed between the one rotational
15 shaft and the other rotational shaft, an actual
differential speed detecting step for detecting an actual
differential speed between the one rotational shaft and
the other rotational shaft, and a clutch torque computing
step for computing an engagement force of the clutch unit
20 by obtaining a deviation between the target differential
speed and the actual differential speed with a switching
function by using at least a polarity related to an integral
term of the deviation and by applying a sliding mode
control.

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15. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 13, wherein:

the clutch torque computing step reduces the ratio of said clutch torque obtained through the feed forward control as the diameter difference of the tire increases.

16. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 13, wherein:

the tire diameter difference computing step calculates the diameter difference based on at least an actual differential speed between the one rotational shaft and the other rotational shaft when the vehicle is running substantially straight and when a slippage is difficult to be detected between the road and said wheel.

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17. The differential limiting control method as set forth in any of Claim 13, wherein:

the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

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18. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 14, wherein:

the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

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19. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 15, wherein:

the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

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20. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 16, wherein:

the clutch unit is interposed between a front axle and a rear axle.

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21. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 13, wherein:

the clutch unit limits the differential action of a differential interposed between left and right wheel.

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22. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 14, wherein:

the clutch unit limits the differential action of a differential interposed between left and right wheel.

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23. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 15, wherein:

the clutch unit limits the differential action of a differential interposed between left and right wheel.

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24. The differential limiting control method as set forth in Claim 16, wherein:

the clutch unit limits the differential action of a differential interposed between left and right wheel.